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NOVI PAZAR ON THE PATH TO INDUSTRIALIZATION

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The large "Georgi Dimitrov" state industrial enterprise for porcelain and hollow glassware is developing near the small choliya center of Novi Pazar but is insufficiently known to many people.

Novi Pazar can be reached by the narrow gauge railroad line from the Kaspichan railroad station to Todor Izhemenev. The city is located along the S banks of the small Kriva Reka River in the south-eastern part of the Pliska plain.

The present city was founded by Turks during the first half of the eighteenth century as a market center for the neighboring villages. The new settlement was called Yeni Pazar (New Market). By about 1775, Bulgarians had also settled here and formed the Dolna Mahala sector, apart from those of the Turks.

During Mithat Pasha's construction period, the Sofia-Stalin highway passed through Novi Pazar, and increased the importance of the settlement. A clock tower with a bell was built in 1838, and later moved to its present location. Despite the fact that the Turks predominated in the population, the Bulgarians succeeded, after persistent struggles, in opening a church school, a church, and a cultural center.

During the Turkish feudal period, almost all the inhabitants of Novi Pazar were engaged in agriculture. The small city had the appearance of a large village. Most of the land belonged to a few Turkish farmers, but later some Bulgarian landowners appeared. The

majority of the Bulgarian population consisted of poor peasants, who worked on the Turkish farms for almost nothing. The rich Turks and Bulgarians owned large numbers of sheep and cows. They were particularly numerous. The rich Bulgarian farmers sent their sheep as far as Dobruzha, to the market place at Dobrich city. Vine growing was also developed in this region. Increased needs for special services in the city aided the gradual appearance of crafts. A well organized market place for merchants also appeared. From a purely agricultural settlement, Novi Pazar began to develop into a small commercial craftsmen's town. Officially, however, Novi Pazar was recognized as a city in 1883.

During the capitalist era, and even as late as 1926-1928, about 2/3 of all the families in the city were still engaged in agriculture. However, the land owned by most of the farmers was insufficient. A large part fell into the hands of 2 great landowners. Livestock breeding was done on a small-ownership basis. Numerous proletarianized peasants appeared. During 1926 there were 226 registered enterprises of craftsmen, merchants, and industrialists. A large porcelain and glassware factory was built near the city.

On 9 September the way was opened to the development of Novi Pazar. Its population began to grow rapidly. In 1881, the city had a population of 2,187; in 1904, 4,550; and in 1904 it reached 8,155. It must be stressed that this large increase was mainly due to the arrival of people from other places.

After a considerable part of the Turkish population of Novi Pazar emigrated, the city took on a new demographic character. Now the Bulgarians comprise 85.4% of the entire population the Turks,

about 10%; and other nationalities, the rest. A considerable part of this population still is engaged in agriculture, and 141 families have joined the Farm Workers' Cooperative of the city.

However, the development of Novi Pazar is beginning, more and more closely linked with the expansion of industry. Of the 6 enterprises of national importance in the obliya, 3 are located in the city, 75% of all the workers of the obliya are engaged in these particular branches of industrial production. These enterprises are the Georgi Dimitrov BIP (Dushavno industriyalno predpriyatie, State Industrial Enterprise), the Slavyanka oil processing factory, and Vingren. The Georgi Dimitrov BIP alone employs so many workers that on a basis of perfect distribution, almost every family in the city would include a worker in the plant. It becomes clear how important the Georgi Dimitrov BIP is to Novi Pazar. This can be also seen in the annual production of the enterprise, and in the amount of money it makes, which is not inferior to that of numerous other Bulgarian enterprises.

The Georgi Dimitrov BIP is engaged in 3 kinds of production: it has a shop for the production of porcelain, 2 shops for the production of plumbing porcelain and a shop for hollow glassware. One of the shops for plumbing porcelain is located at the Kaspichan railroad station.

The porcelain shop produces various assorted dinnerware sets, vases, figurines, animal figures, complicated sculptural forms, etc. Here porcelain for industrial purposes is also produced -- forms for rubber gloves, for artificial insemination, and for other rubber appliances used in medicine and the general economy.

The earthenware shop in Novi Pazar produces sinks, toilet
baths, and other items, the earthenware shop in Kaspichan, in addition
to these objects, also produces earthenware tiles -- white and
colored.

The glassware shop produces different kinds of jars, various
kinds of wine bottles, glasses, pitchers, demijohns, lamp chimneys,
and various glass technical appliances -- glass rods, and similar
products, penicillin bottles, moulds for fine rubber goods, etc.

The production of all these goods involves rather complicated
processes until the products appear finished, ready for the market.
An important role is played by the complicated plant equipment, and
an even greater one by the great skill and mastery of the workers,
decorators, artists, technicians, and engineers. In a very short
time, from the rotating wheels, skillfully run by the workers, through
the expert handling of their fingers, hundreds and thousands of dishes
and other goods, issue unendingly at great speed. After that they are
dried, baked, decorated, glazed, etc. Finally the ready products are
packed; they fill the cars of the narrow-gauge railroad train every
day.

The shops located in Novi Pazar have seven round kilns for
the firing of porcelain and earthenware, 11 muffle furnaces, and one
electric muffle furnace for the firing of decorated porcelain. A
tunnel furnace will be built in 1966 to replace the 11 muffle furnaces.
It will lighten the tasks on the workers, and will improve the quality
of production. In Kaspichan there are 6 round furnaces (and 2 build-
ings) for the firing of earthenware plumbing fixtures.

The glassware shop has 4 generators for the production of gas from coal necessary for the melting of the glass mixture in the 2 tube furnaces. Glass melting also requires calcinated soda, which was previously imported from Poland and Germany, but is now being supplied by the Bulgarian Karl Marx soda plant. With astonishing skill the workers in the glassware shop take the melted elastic glass mass, which has temperature of 1,400° C, from the furnace, and turn it in a second's work into a glass, a bottle, a jar, etc. Then the newly made glass object is sent along the path of its final shaping, polishing and engraving.

It is also interesting to know where the raw materials required for the beginning of the production process of the objects made by the enterprise come from.

The main raw material for the Georgi Dimitrov BIP -- caolin -- is found in huge quantities near Ezelinovo village, which is served by a branch of the narrow gauge railroad. Here the factory which processes it to the point where, mixed with feldspar, it can be used as a ready material for the production of porcelain, has been built. The factory at Ezelinovo village also produces the fine quartz sand which is the basic raw material in the production of melted glass, from which hollow glassware is produced by the same enterprise. Feldspar is brought from Vladaya and other places, and coal (first quality) for the porcelain and earthenware from Dimitrovo, which also produces the second-quality coal used in the making of glass. Lignite brought from Chakurovo is used in producing decorated porcelain. The mixing of the materials used in making porcelain -- feldspar, quartz, sand, caolin, and Plevna-type clay -- is done in special mixing drums, to which water is added -- the wet mixing process. The traces of iron

art removed with electromagnets so that the porcelain will not be colored during the firing.

The plant has a laboratory for testing raw materials and finished products. It has also an art department in which work toward the creation of new products and beautifying those in production is carried on.

A plan for the expansion and improved functioning of the administrative buildings, shops, and parks of the Georgi Dimitrov DIP has been drafted.

The present park will become even more beautiful, and the canteen and bath house will be radically improved. The housing needs of the workers will be met by the building of spacious new housing units in the center of the town. The plant also has a sanatorium for sick workers.

Within the administrative system of this branch of production, the Georgi Dimitrov DIP is second in the country only to the Stoyko Iv. Peev DIP in Beloslav, and is first among the porcelain producing enterprises of the country. The plant is in a leading place also in the quality of its production, which is not inferior to Czechoslovak porcelain. That is why, in addition to supplying the home market, its products are sought abroad, and orders have been placed by numerous foreign countries -- Rumania, Albania, Turkey, Syria, Iran, and Iraq.

In addition to enterprises on a republican scale, Novi Pazar also includes numerous enterprises of local importance. Out of 17 such enterprises in the obshina, 9 are located in the city, and employ 30% of all the obshina workers. They are the following:

a wagon making cooperative, a carpenters' cooperative (for furniture, barrels, etc), a shoe making cooperative, a lemonade factory, a BMS (Rayonen kooperativen union, Rayon Cooperative Union), and others. The Gheliya Industrial Combine, located in the city, has a rolling mill, a technical workshop, a casting shop, a tinmith's shop (for the making of stoves, with the aid of the casting shop), a slaughter house, and others. The number of industrial workers of the city is even greater if it is considered to include the workers engaged in the Gheliya Industrial Combine.

The success of the Georgi Dimitrov BIP is increasing with every passing day, and the local industrial production enterprises are expanding. Along with them, Novi Pazar is further expanding along the path of socialist reorganization.

Near the city, there is a branch of the Vasil Kolarov BMS (Burmavna zemelshche stepanstvo, State Farm), with 18,000 decares of arable land. It also includes one of the 3 machine-tractor stations in the gheliya.

The new city plan envisages the execution of important measures in the building and organization of the city -- canalization, expansion and improvement of the parks, the construction of new public buildings, private living premises, and cultural buildings. The new plan envisages preserving 2 of the old monuments -- the clock tower and the mosque. Thus the present appearance will be considerably improved, and in some places, it will be completely changed. Novi Pazar will make a particularly important acquisition if the building of a large dam on the Kriva Reka River north of the city, is carried out. This will radically change the economic and cultural outlines of the settlement. And the day the barren neighboring hills are

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...will lose its place as not particularly
inviting appearance and will save the place in the name of the wall
but mostly ... cities.

FIGURE CAPTIONS

[Page 9 of original] View of Novi Pazar city

[Page 10 of original] Novi Pazar. The building of the Okoliya People's
Soviet

[Page 10 of original] New housing blocks for the workers of the
"G. Dimitrov" DIP are being constructed

[Page 11 of original] In one of the departments of the porcelain shop